

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated September 25, 2006, claims 1 and 15 have been amended. Claims 1-9 and 15-20 are in the case. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

As a preliminary note, as discussed with Examiner Lam Nguyen on December 12, 2006, in an effort to further the prosecution of the subject application, the Applicants kindly request the Examiner to telephone the Applicants' attorney at (818) 885-1575 regarding the previously discussed above amendments and the below arguments.

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 2, 6, 8, 9, 15 and 19-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Kawase, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,086,272).

The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection based on the amendments to the claims and the arguments below.

Namely, the Applicants' newly independent claims now include using a heater array with heater elements, analyzing print data to determine a firing pulse rate of the heater elements in the heater array for controlling ejection of the ink from the plural nozzles to maintain accuracy and precision of ink droplet placement and assigning pixel locations of the ink drops and then registering the pixel locations at respective firing addresses.

In contrast, Kawase et al. merely disclose a printer with nozzles for printing dots that are "positioned in a zigzag formation." (see Abstract of Kawase et al.) Although Kawase et al. disclose that odd-numbered nozzles and even-numbered nozzles are alternatively positioned, Kawase et al. are missing the Applicants' using a heater array with heater elements, analyzing print data to determine a firing pulse rate of the heater elements in the heater array and assigning pixel locations of the ink drops and then registering the pixel locations at respective firing addresses. Thus, since Kawase et al. do not disclose all of the claimed elements of the independent claims, Kawase et al. cannot anticipate the claims. Hence, the Applicants submit that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejected 3-5, 7 and 16-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kawase et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,086,272) in view of Hackman (U.S. Patent No. 5,742,305).

The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection based on the amendments to the claims and the arguments below.

In particular, the Applicants contend that combined references do not disclose, teach, or suggest all of the elements of the Applicants' claimed invention. For example, as argued above, Kawase et al. merely disclose printing dots that are positioned in a zigzag formation and Hackeman simply discloses a page-wide-array printer element with printhead nozzles for ejecting ink droplets and with printbar memory for off loading dot data throughput between printer memory and printhead nozzles.

Thus, even when Kawase et al. is combined with Hackeman, the combination of these references is still missing the Applicants' claimed using a heater array with heater elements, analyzing print data to determine a firing pulse rate of the heater elements in the heater array for controlling ejection of the ink from the plural nozzles to maintain accuracy and precision of ink droplet placement and assigning pixel locations of the ink drops and then registering the pixel locations at respective firing addresses.

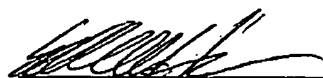
With regard to the rest of the dependent claims, because they depend from the above-argued respective independent claims, and they contain additional limitations that are patentably distinguishable over the cited references, these claims are also considered to be patentable (MPEP § 2143.03).

Thus, it is respectfully requested that all of the claims be allowed based on the amendments and arguments. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. Additionally, in an effort to further the prosecution of the subject application, the Applicants kindly **request** the Examiner to telephone the Applicants' attorney at **(818) 885-1575**.

Please note that all mail correspondence should continue to be directed to:

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Respectfully submitted,
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